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ABSTRACT

Project Challenge is a unit of Project Playpen, Inc., in Pinellas County, Florida, which serves children from birth to age 5 who attend child care programs and display mild to moderate degrees of emotional challenge. This program guide describes the activities, structures, and design of Project Challenge to meet the needs of child care for working parents and their children. The first chapter provides a brief history of the project, program assumptions, and a program summary. The second chapter deals with aspects of program design, including: (1) referrals and intake procedures; (2) observation procedures; (3) general suggestions; (4) charts of most common behavior concerns; (5) conferences with parents and child care provider; and (6) the activity plan. The third chapter offers screening and testing instruments, including screening tools and ways to avoid labelling children. The next two chapters provide guidelines for working with families, and for training individual providers. Chapter 6 outlines support staff procedures. Networking with other agencies and lessons learned the hard way are also discussed. Two appendices include various program forms as well as other information on funding sources and suggested resources. (AP)

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